

Crossroads Covenant Church
sermon-based small group discussion guide for December 9, 2018

Getting to Know Us- building intimacy in your shared group

1. How much of a “techie” are you? Do you have the latest phone, car, computer, or other gadgets?
2. What older technologies do you continue to use: rotary telephone? television without a remote? VHS or Betamax tapes? a favorite classic car?

Getting into the Word- digging deeper into the message

1. This week’s topic was comparing our penchant for anxiety and God’s provision of peace. Read the parallel passages of Matthew 6:25-34 and Luke 12:22-34. How do these passages provide comfort for us in difficult times? What is required for us to enter into this promise?
2. Read Luke 1:8-17 (from last week’s message) and Luke 1:28-38. Compare all the images and references to law to Zechariah in the former passage with the message of grace to Mary in the latter.
3. As a group, read together Mary’s song in Luke 1:46-55. Pause for a few seconds after each line before moving on to the next. When completed, quietly reflect on the hymn for a moment and then discuss any thoughts that come to mind. Do any of the lines stick with your soul or is there something about the song that helps you bask in the glory of the Lord?

Application- sharing personal experiences

1. All of us are anxious about something. Where do you struggle with anxiety? How can you begin to set aside this worry? How can you ask others in the small group or church to help with your frame of mind on this difficult topic?
2. After hearing the unique and perhaps scary announcement from Gabriel, Mary accepted it by saying “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” Has God ever announced a strange and difficult change in your life, which you quickly accepted? Talk about the peace of mind you experienced and the blessings that resulted from this change.